

LAND COURT'S GOOD WORK.

Synopsis of Annual Report Just Filed—Important Supreme Court Rulings.

Special Correspondence of The Optic.

SANTA FE, Oct. 12.—Matt G. Reynolds U. S. attorney, has submitted to the attorney general his annual report showing the transaction of the U. S. court of private land claims for the year ending October 5th. During this period three terms of court have been held at Santa Fe, a large number of cases have been finally disposed of and very marked progress has been made toward a completion of the trial of causes on the court.

The court has, during the past year, decided fifty-seven cases, involving fifty-two grants. Among the cases disposed of is the Vigil and St. Vrain or Las Animas grant, in Colorado, with an area of 4,096,346 acres. This case was dismissed by the court for want of jurisdiction; the court holding the grant to be one the right to which has hitherto been lawfully acted upon and decided by congress.

The total area claimed in the fifty-two grants disposed of is 5,556,594. Of this amount there have been rejected claims to the amount of 5,540,294 acres, and confirmed 7,400 acres. The percentage of confirmation has thus been a little over one-tenth of one per cent. "The great disparity between the amount claimed and the amount confirmed is to a very large extent," says Mr. Reynolds, "ascribable to the extravagance of many of the claims presented. The importance of the decision of the supreme court on cases heretofore appealed from the court of private land claims, as applicable to the cases remaining for trial, was pointed out in my last annual report. The principles announced in the cases of Sandoval vs. United States, and more recently in the case of Hayes vs. United States, have been applied by the court to the cases since that time coming for trial, and the small area confirmed, as above set forth, is also in part ascribable to the far reaching effect of these and other decisions by the court of last resort on appeals from the court of private land claims."

The report adds: In the Jose Garcia case, rejected in toto by the court, a most important principle as affecting other cases yet for trial was announced. In this case the proof tendered to support this grant consisted of recitals in certain adjacent grants as to "the grant of Jose Garcia." In considering the effect of this proof the court holds that the claimants must prove not only that their predecessors in interest had a grant, but also the character of the grant; that until this is done, the court cannot know whether it is of the class of titles cognizable under the act of March 3, 1891, and that until such proof is furnished a confirmation cannot be secured. In this case the court fully recognizes the contention which the government has insisted upon from the very inception of this litigation, that the jurisdiction of the court is a limited one, and that until claimants, by full legal proof, bring themselves clearly within the jurisdictional limits imposed

by law, there can be no confirmation. In other words, the court has no power to presume a grant or its character; claimants must prove first, that they have a grant, and second, that they have one of the character confided to the court of private land claims by the act of March 3, 1891.

Recapitulating, there are yet pending in the New Mexico district, either for trial, under advisement, for survey, on appeal, on motion for rehearing, or because confirmation is not yet final, eighty-five cases involving an aggregate area of 7,183,056 acres. It is believed that this represents a total volume of business that will engage the court, of private land claims in this department of its labors. While under section eight of the act establishing the court parties having perfect grants seem to be permitted to file at any time during the life of the court, no one has taken advantage of this provision of the act since the date of last report, and it is improbable that any further claims will be filed.

Twelve Arizona cases, involving ten grants with an acreage of 510,448.73 acres, have been tried by the court of private land claims during its existence. Of these the court confirmed two, with an acreage of 68,388.52, rejected seven, with an acreage of 421,659.61, and has one, with an acreage of 20,400.60, under advisement. There are pending on the Arizona docket and yet untried, seven cases, with an aggregate area claimed of 242,269.06 acres.

History Recalled.

Mexican Herald.

Gen. Miles appears to be in the same plight as was Gen. Scott on returning from this country to the United States. President Polk, who hated Scott, and saw in him a dangerous rival, had him brought before a Court of Inquiry to answer charges regarding his manner of conducting the campaign. It was necessary to diminish his prestige, for he was a Whig and a Presidential candidate. One of the members of that court was the afterward famous Caleb Cushing, whom President Grant tried to make chief justice, but whose nomination he was forced to withdraw. The court did nothing, for the charges against Scott had to be withdrawn, but Polk showed his littleness, and undoubtedly one of the pettiest of the Presidents, a mere politician. His jealousy of Scott was contemptible. Miles is now in Scott's position, and the War Department his persecutors.

THE VIRDEN AFFAIR.

That was a most calamitous affair at Virden, Ill., yesterday, and it seems that an avaricious coal mine operator, Lukens by name, is chiefly responsible for it. Gov. Tanner is to be commended for the stand he has taken to protect the peace of the state. Now, if the courts will but do their duty the country may witness a healthy object lesson. In many states, Texas for one, there is a heavy penalty against the importation of outside labor. Surely it is the duty of the state to protect its citizens, its own tax payers, against the encroachment of such men as Lukens.

It doesn't take a blooming idiot long to go to seed.

Republican Persecution.

Las Cruces, N. M., Oct. 8.—Carlton E. Bull, editor of the Independent Democrat of this city, was arraigned this morning before district court on three indictments, ostensibly for libel. Mr. Bull entered appearance and was put under \$500, \$100 and \$100 bonds respectively, on the three charges.

The gist of the matter is that the Republicans influenced the grand jury to utter indictments last Thursday against Bull for publishing the letters to the press by the outlaw, Oliver Lee.

Mr. Bull gave bond in the sums above mentioned, and is now awaiting the action of the court. However, there is a strong chance that his case will go over until next term of court, as funds for the continuance of this session are running low.

Editor Bull states that he is ready and able to substantiate the truthfulness by witnesses and is glad of the chance to show up in public some of the corruption existing in Dona Ana county official circles, but he is afraid the Republican incumbents will prevent his having the opportunity this term.—El Paso Tribune-Telegraph.

MARKETS.

Cattle and sheep.

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—Cattle—Receipts 10,500; including 3,000 westerns; steady to strong; beefs, \$4 10@5.80; cows and heifers, \$2.00 @ 4.65; Texas steers, \$2.90 @ 3.90; westerns, \$1.60 @ 4.60; stockers and feeders, \$3.10 @ 4.60.

Sheep—Receipts, 16,000; market, steady; natives, \$3.10@4.70; westerns, \$3.65@4.60; lambs, \$4.25@6.60.

Kansas City Stock.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 13.—Cattle—Receipts, 10,000; steady; native steers, \$4 10@5.50; Texas steers, \$3.00@4.50; Texas cows, \$2.10@3.90; native cows and heifers, \$1.50@4.75; stockers and feeders, \$3.85@4.90; bulls, \$2.40@3.50.

Sheep—Receipts, 3,000; firm; lambs, \$3.75@5.10; muttons, \$3.00@5.00.

Chicago Grain.

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—Wheat—Oct., 65; Dec., 64½.
Corn—Oct., 30½; Dec., 30½@31.
Oats—Oct., 22½@23½; Dec., 22½@23½.

Money Market.

NEW YORK, Oct. 13.—Money on call easier, 2@2½ per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 3@4 per cent.

Metal Market.

NEW YORK, Oct. 13.—Silver, 50½ Lead, \$3.75; Copper, 11.

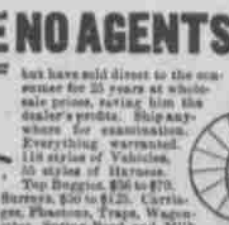
Beauty may be only skin deep, but it invariably manages to get a seat in a crowded car.

When death stares a man in the face and he lives to tell the tale, he spends lots of time telling it.

Premature gray hair often causes the good to dye young.



Pat. 77. Heavy Harness, Price \$10.00. As good as new for \$10.00.



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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

In the District Court, of the Fourth Judicial District, Territory of New Mexico, County of San Miguel

Daniel T. Hoakins, Administrator of the estate of Hannah J. Lusk, deceased, vs. Libbie McMullen, Arthur Lusk and Dora Krum, Elizabeth Aldrich, Mary Webster, Della Payne, Lucy Newbottom, Lavina Stone, Samantha Davison, Rachel Hostmer, the unknown heirs of Hannah J. Lusk, deceased, and all other unknown claimants who claim any interest in the premises hereinafter described, defendants. No 5,990.

The said defendants last named are hereby notified that a suit has been commenced by the above named plaintiff, Daniel T. Hoakins, as administrator of the estate of Hannah J. Lusk, deceased, in the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District for the county of San Miguel, to subject lot number eight (8) block 15, of the Lopez addition to Las Vegas; also lots 5 and 6, block number 16 of the Las Vegas Town Company's addition to Las Vegas, all of said property situated in the city of Las Vegas, San Miguel county, New Mexico, to the payment of the debts and claims allowed and approved by the Probate Court of San Miguel county against said estate of Hannah J. Lusk, deceased, in the sum of \$575.20 and costs.

Plaintiff asks in the complaint filed in the above entitled cause, with the clerk of said court that he as such administrator be allowed to sell the property belonging to said estate under the order of the court, for the purpose of obtaining funds to meet and pay said debts in said sum of \$575.20 and an order of said court, after paying said debts to be permitted to distribute the remainder that may be left in his hands to the heirs of said estate, who are Libbie McMullen, Arthur Lusk, Dora Krum, Elizabeth Aldrich, Mary Webster, Della Payne, Lucy Newbottom, Lavina Stone, Samantha Davison and Rachel Hostmer, according to their respective rights as the same may appear to the court. That all of said defendants above named be forever barred from having or claiming any right, title and interest in and to said real estate, and that the title to said real estate be forever quieted and set at rest and for general relief.

That unless said defendants and each of them enter their appearance in said cause in the office of the Clerk of the District Court, of the Fourth Judicial District of the Territory of New Mexico, in and for the county of San Miguel, on or before Monday, the 14th day of November, 1898, judgment by default will be rendered against you and each of you.

SEVERINO ROMERO, Clerk.

WM. G. RAYMON, Atty for Plaintiff, East Las Vegas, N. M. 37-41

Notice of Dissolution.

The firm of Teitelbaum & Jarrell, Liberty, N. M., is dissolved, Teitelbaum retiring. All accounts due being payable to the undersigned who will continue the business with a full assortment of general merchandise.

J. JARRELL, Liberty, N. M.

Cash paid for cat's, sheep, wool and pelts.

Some men take less advantage of opportunity than of those who offer them.

Some men get into financial straits and others get into financial crooked.

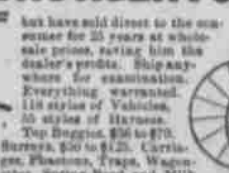
Death is high price. We sell direct to the Farmer at Dealer's Prices. 14-in. bulky Plows, \$25. 15-in. B. R. Plows, \$28. Bulling's outfit, extra, \$1.50. 14-T. Lever Harrow, \$7.00. Mowers, \$20.00. Riding lawn Mowers, \$25. 12-16 in. Horse, \$25. Bay Hacks, \$21.60. 2-in. Wagons, \$25. Buggies, Harnesses, Sewing Machines, Cider Mills, \$24.75. Corn Shellers, \$1.50. Hoe Drills, \$22.00. A Hoe Drill, \$18.75. and 1000 other things at one-half dealer's prices. Catalog free. Dependable Prices. Box 111, Allen, Ill.

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W. B. PRATT, Secy, ELKHART, IND.